

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01126 191047Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----191049Z 082575 /21

O 190930Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9940

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1126

EXDIS

VIENNA FOR VP PARTY

FROM LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RH UK US

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIVE GROUP TRAVEL TO MAPUTO

1. ON HIS RETURN FROM MAPUTO FCO MINISTER OF STATE ROWLANDS ADVISED GRAHAM NOT TO PROCEED AS PLANNED TO MAPUTO SUNDAY IN ORDER TO MEET WITH PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS. ROWLANDS' REASONS WERE: (1) IT WAS TOO SOON AFTER THE UN CONFERENCE; (2) NKOMO WOULD NOT BE THERE, AND (3) THERE WAS TOO MUCH PRESS AROUND.

2. GRAHAM HAD NOT EXPECTED TO SEE NKOMO IN MAPUTO. WHEN THEY MET IN LONDON, NKOMO HAD SAID HE WOULD BE OUT OF CIRCULATION UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH. HE GAVE GRAHAM TO BELIEVE HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO CONSULTATIONS PROCEEDING WITHOUT HIM. GRAHAM EXPECTED TO SEE MUGABE AND A ZAPU REP IN MAPUTO. GRAHAM'S HOPE HAD BEEN TO TOUCH BASE, OR AT
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LEAST MAKE A SERIOUS OFFER TO DO SO, WITH ALL THE NATIONALIST GROUPS BEFORE PROCEEDING TO SALISBURY. BOTH HE AND I FEEL WE SHOULD MAKE CLEAR OUR DESIRE FOR COOPERATION WITH ALL BUT AT THE SAME TIME OUR INTENT TO GET ON WITH THE JOB. WE ARE BOTH OF THE VIEW THEREFORE THAT THE GROUP SHOULD GO TO MAPUTO TO MAKE ITSELF AVAILABLE TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FOR A DAY OR TWO AND THEN PROCEED TO

SALISBURY. A SUBSEQUENT MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED WITH
NKOMO AND THE PF IN LUSAKA AFTER SALISBURY.

3. GRAHAM IS REQUESTING INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE FCO AS
ABOVE. I MYSELF WILL EITHER ACCOMPANY HIM OR JOIN THE
YOUNG PARTY IN JOHANNESBURG TO TRAVEL WITH THEM TO
LUSAKA, RETURNING TO MEET GRAHAM IN JOHANNESBURG AFTER
HIS MAPUTO MEETING IF IT IS APPROVED. THIS MIGHT HAVE
ADVANTAGES IN VIEW OF MUGABE ATTITUDE TOWARD US
PARTICIPATION AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S RECENT MEETING
WITH HIM.
NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, NATIONALISTS, CONSULTANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GABORO01126
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770178-0509
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770540/aaaabinc.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b2405e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2458102
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIVE GROUP TRAVEL TO MAPUTO
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, RH, UK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b2405e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009